<u>Amendments to the Drawings</u>:

The attached sheets of formal drawings, which include Figs. 1-15C, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-15C.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s): Thirty-seven(37) pages

REMARKS

The above amendment with the following remarks is submitted to be fully responsive to the Office Action of July 24, 2006. Reconsideration of this application in light of the amendment and the allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 11-17 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. In response to the Office Action, independent claims 1 and 8 were amended in the above amendment. Therefore, claims 1-9 and 11-17 are still pending in the present application and are believed to be in proper condition for allowance.

Initially, as requested by the Examiner, Replacement Sheets of formal drawings are submitted herewith for entry and acceptance. Due to the size and complexity of some figures, the draftsman had to expand these figures into multiple pages which are now enumerated with "-1", "-2", etc. However, this was done due to paper size constraints only, and the separate pages should be considered as one figure when referred to in the Specification. In this regard, the Specification has been amended to recite that such multiple pages collectively refer to a particular figure. In addition, the brief description of Figure 14A has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Referring now to the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being rendered obvious based on the previously cited U.S. Patent No. 5,740,425 to Povilus, in view of a newly cited U.S. Patent application publication US 2003/0130905 to Foster et al. In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Povilus discloses all of the limitations of the numerous claims including value lists that identifies values, but notes that Povilus does not teach such value lists that minimize potential error. The Examiner then asserts that the newly cited Foster reference discloses this limitation. Thus, the Examiner asserts that the invention is unpatentable. The Applicants respectfully disagree for the reasons set forth below, and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In contrast to the Examiner's assertions, the cited Povilus reference does not disclose value lists recited in the present claims, and further, does not disclose the various other limitations of the dependent claims. In particular, as set forth in the prior Amendments to the previous Office Actions, Povilus fails to disclose any value lists that

set forth plurality of values, or such lists where the values are selectable as a value for the attribute, as claimed in the present invention. The cited portions of Povilus describe different classes or groupings of products having differing attributes, but does not describe possible value lists having a plurality of values as asserted by the Examiner. Thus, the Examiner's characterization in the present Office Action of what the Povilus patent discloses is clearly improper, and the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's assertions as to the features disclosed by the Povilus patent.

Referring again to the Office Action, the cited secondary Foster reference fails to fully cure the deficiencies of the primary Povilus reference. The Foster reference discloses a system including pull down type menus with nesting sub-menus. However, the identified information in the menus disclosed in Foster are attributes of the products, and not values for the attributes. Thus, the values for the attributes are disclosed as being entered by the user using the product editor, or being automatically provided by a table. No user selectable value lists having a plurality of values are disclosed in the Foster reference. Thus, the combination of the Povilus patent and the Foster reference still does not result in a system with value lists recited in the present claims that identify plurality of values which are selectable as a value for the attribute of the product. Correspondingly, the Examiner's rejection of independent claim 1 is believed to be improper, and the withdrawal thereof is hereby requested.

However, to further expedite the prosecution of the present application, independent claim 1 has been again amended to more clearly define the values of the value list. In particular, claim 1 now specifically recites a plurality of possible value lists for input of product data, each possible value list having a plurality of predetermined, user selectable values that are selectable as a value for an attribute of a product that is being classified. Clearly, the combination of Povilus and Foster fails to render the present invention as defined in claim 1 unpatentable. Therefore, the withdrawal of this rejection, and the allowance of independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-7 ultimately dependent thereon, are respectfully requested.

In addition, it is also made of record that Povilus fails to disclose the features as asserted by the Examiner in the Office Action relative to the rejection of the various dependent claims. In particular, dependent claims 2 and 3 recites a plurality of possible

unit lists that identify units which are selectable as a unit for an attribute of the product being classified. The cited portions of Povilus relied upon by the Examiner in the Office Action do not relate to units at all. Dependent claim 4 recites a multi-value indicator that indicates more than one value can be selected. The cited portions of Povilus relied upon by the Examiner do not relate to such an indicator at all. Dependent claim 5 recites a data capture priority indicator. The cited portions of Povilus do not relate to a priority indicator. Dependent claim 6 recites a countries table that specify selectable countries. Relevance of the Examiner's cited portions of Povilus is entirely unclear. Dependent claim 7 recites a compatibility table that sets for selectable platforms which are compatible with the specific product. Again, the relevance of the Examiner's cited portions of Povilus is entirely unclear.

It is entirely unclear how the cited portions of the Povilus reference disclose any of the above noted features as asserted by the Examiner in the Office Action. If the Examiner is to continue to rely upon Povilus for any further rejections, the Applicant respectfully request that the basis of the Examiner's assertions as to the teachings of Povilus, and how they are applicable to the recited limitations of each of the independent and dependent claims, be made explicitly clear.

Referring again to the Office Action, independent claim 8 was also rejected based on Povilus, in combination with Foster discussed above. However, the above comments relative to independent claim 1 is believed to be equally applicable here in that claim 8 also recites that each attribute have an associated possible value list having a plurality of values that are selectable as a value for the associated attribute of a product classified.

In addition, independent claim 8 also recites a plurality of system SKUs, each system SKU being arranged to identify one of the plurality of products and a plurality of manufacturer SKUs, each manufacturer SKU being associated with one of the plurality of system SKUs. Moreover, claim 8 further recites a customer mapping table that maps each system SKU to a customer SKU. In contrast to the Examiner's assertions, the cited Povilus reference fails to disclose these features. Whereas a product SKU is disclosed, the other recited limitations are clearly not disclosed, including system SKUs and a customer mapping table. Thus, the withdrawal of this rejection, and the allowance of independent
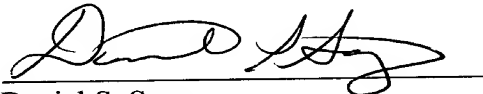
claim 8 and dependent claims 9, and 11-17 ultimately dependent thereon, are also requested.

However, to expedite the prosecution of the present application, independent claim 8 has been again amended to more clearly define the values of the value list by specifically reciting that the values of the value lists are predetermined. Correspondingly, the withdrawal of this rejection, and the allowance of claims 8, 9, and 11-19 are respectfully requested.

The Examiner's rejection of dependent claims 9 and 11-19 are believed to be rendered moot in view of the above remarks relative to independent claim 8 from which these claims ultimately depend. Moreover, remarks set forth above relative to dependent claims 2-7 are believed to be applicable as well. Correspondingly, the withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of dependent claims 9, and 11-17, and the allowance of these claims, are also requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, if any issue remains after considering this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution and work out any such issue by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

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